

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed July 25, 2006, pending claims 1, 21, 22, 26, 27, 34, 35 and 42 are rejected and pending claims 2-20, 23-25, 28-33, 36-41, and 43-48 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. For the following reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is now in condition for allowance.

Initially, Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for acknowledging that pending claims 2-20, 23-25, 28-33, 36-41, and 43-48 would be allowable if rewritten in proper independent form. With this in mind, independent claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations recited in claim 10, a claim recognized by the Office as allowable if rewritten in proper independent form. As such, the rejection of claim 1 is now moot. Likewise, the rejections of claims 21, 22 and 26 as well as the objections to claims 2-20 and 23-25 are also moot since they are each dependent on currently amended claim 1.

Independent claim 27 has been amended to include the limitations recited in claim 30, another claim recognized by the Office as allowable if rewritten in proper independent form. As such, the rejection of claim 27 is now moot. In addition, the objections to claims 28-33 are also moot since they are each dependent on currently amended claim 27.

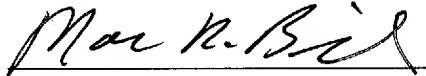
Independent claim 34 has been amended to include the limitations recited in claim 36, yet another claim recognized by the Office as allowable if rewritten in proper independent form. As such, the rejection of claim 34 is now moot. Likewise, the rejection of claim 35 and the objections to claims 36-41 are also moot since claims 35-41 are each dependent on currently amended claim 34.

Finally, independent claim 42 has been amended to include the limitations recited in claim 43, still another claim recognized by the Office as allowable if rewritten in independent form. As such, the rejection of claim 42 is now moot. In addition, the objections to claims 43-48

are also moot since they are each dependent on currently amended claim 42. In light of the aforementioned amendments, dependent claims 10, 30, 36 and 43 have been cancelled.

Respectfully submitted,

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